

## Weather Corner



**National Weather Service Tonight:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 a.m. Patchy fog after 1 a.m. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 53. East wind between 5 and 10 mph becoming calm.

**Thursday:** Patchy fog before 11 a.m. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 73. Calm wind becoming east around 5 mph.

**Thursday Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52. East wind around 5 mph becoming south.

**Friday:** Mostly cloudy, with a high near 80. South wind around 5 mph.

**Friday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 55.

**Saturday:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 81.

**Saturday Night:** A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 58.

**Sunday:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 84.

**Sunday Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 56.

Monday: High, 72; Low 45  
 Tuesday: High, 69; Low 55  
 Precip: Monday Trace  
 Tuesday .05 inches  
 Month: 0.83 inches  
 Year: 10.98 inches  
 Normal: 9.94 inches  
 (K-State Experiment Station)  
 Sunrise Thursday 6:17 a.m.  
 Sunset Thursday 9:11 p.m.  
 (U.S. Naval Observatory)

## Farmers turn out for extension's wheat plot tour

From "WHEAT," Page 1

pend on the world." O'Brien said that with the problems with supply, there should be a recovery of price after harvest, but \$13 to \$15 wheat is not in the cards again this year.

Mark Wood, with the Colby office of the Farm Management Association, said farmers need \$6.50 a bushel for a 40 bushel crop, and it looks like we'll have 50 bushels or better.

"The elevators will be full the first few days of harvest," he said,

"so you need to be thinking of a place to store grain."

Brian Olson, Extension northwest area agronomist in Colby, said some fields that look good are thinner than they look from the road, due to frost damage to tillers.

He told the farmers to be careful when planting wheat on no-till ground because it needs to be put in deep enough to survive.

"When the coleoptile emerges, it responds to light, and then sets the crown," he said. "Cold temperatures can kill the crown, and

low to moderate trash leaves little protection to the newly emerging seedling."

He also said the brown wheat mite is more noticeable on continuous-cropped wheat, and to consider crop rotation at least every two years to discourage pests.

"It has to stay cool for it to finish," said Clint Milliman, Thomas County Extension agent. "We are seeing some third berry, and if conditions stay cool just a little longer, it will fill."

After the information session, the group moved to the research

plots. A plot of old Turkey red was there to the height to the new semi-dwarf varieties. Turkey red was what made this area the wheat producer it is today, Olson said, because it was the first hard red winter wheat to be introduced to this area that could yield a good crop.

"If we go to cellulose alcohol for energy, they may need the taller varieties because of the amount of straw they produce," Olson said. "Also, the taller varieties have a longer coleoptile. Right now, we are breeding vari-

eties that will send that energy to produce grain."

He said that out of 23 varieties in the plot, the Bill Brown variety seemed to exhibit top qualities in being drought and disease resistant.

Hatcher is grown here and is not a new release, he said. It shows signs of speckling, but that is not to be confused with a disease. The speckling seems to be a trait of the plant.

Hitch is a variety released in 2008 that has a good disease package, and tolerates dry weather.

## Community College will use wind power to teach

From "WIND," Page 1

the turbine to bring energy education into her sustainability and environmental issues curriculum, Kaas said, including soil science, crop science and general biology courses. The dean said the wind turbine would be used for measuring wind speed, wind capability (how many kilowatts per hour the turbine would produce), how often wind blows and the impact of atmospheric pressure on the turbine.

Kaas said he worked with Dan Hartman, Logan County Economic Development director and facilitator for the Northwest Kansas Energy Collaborative, to submit the application in April. The collaborative represents 14 member

counties in northwest Kansas. It was put together to promote alternative energy, especially wind energy, said Kaas.

He said the school had received help from seven area schools that submitted letters to the Miller voicing their support for the project, Oakley High School, Decatur Community High School, Heartland Christian School, Sacred Heart Elementary School, Colby, Brewster and Golden Plains High School.

"The college will collaborate with area school districts to encourage their science teachers to be involved in wind technology education," Kaas said.

He said the school received support and offers of help from several other agencies.

"The Kansas Sierra Club offered assistance in wind technology development," Kaas said. "The City of Colby has indicated support for the project and offered assistance from their staff and construction. Acciona Energy, the wind developer scheduled to construct the Solomon Forks Wind Farm south of Colby, also sent a letter of support for the college's proposal."

Other schools selected for the program include the Solomon School District, Appanoose Elementary in Franklin County, an alternative school in Topeka and the Smoky Valley Schools in Lindsborg.

## Modern Woodmen to hold open house

Shawn Carney, Colby representative of Modern Woodmen of America financial services, will hold an open house from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday to celebrate the completion and grand opening of a newly remodeled office.

Lunch will be served, and Carney and others will be on hand to answer questions. There will be several drawings, including tickets to the Oak Ridge Boys concert here July 26, a portable video disk player, and a kid's prize.

Carney serves members of the fraternal group, their families, and residents in the western Kansas area. The organization, which says it is a unique combination of business and volunteerism, offers life insurance and annuities for family financial security, as well as service programs and benefits for families and their communities.

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